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A collection of etchings, lent by Mr. Chauncey J. Blair, is now on exhibition in the print room. It includes proofs from a number of famous plates, among them the "Galerie de Notre Dame" and "L'Abside de Notre Dame" by Meryon, "The Three Trees" by Rembrandt, two brilliant examples of Zorn, "The Traveller" and "Mademoiselle X," and some valuable and less familiar subjects by Whistler, Haden, Millet, Helleu and Felix Buhot. The group also contains a few excellent works by the younger American etchers, Donald Shaw MacLaughlin, George C. Aid, and Herman A. Webster. With these are exhibited examples of Piranesi's architectural subjects belonging to the Institute.

It is probable that the Annual Exhibition of Artists of Chicago and Vicinity, at the desire of the artists, will be held in January in future instead of February. The Annual Exhibition of the Society of Western Artists will be held in February, 1910.

The exhibition of a collection of landscape paintings by Alfred East, President of the Royal Society of British Artists, is postponed from this summer to January, 1910.

A fountain designed and modelled by Mr. Charles J. Mulligan, head of the department of sculpture in our school, has recently been exhibited in Blackstone Hall. The final work is to be erected at the north end of Washington Park. It was ordered by the late Mr. Graves, and is in commemoration of a favorite horse. The design represents the horse in a spirited position on a mound-like pedestal, from which jets of water rise, falling into a circular pool below. The statue is to be in bronze.

THE RYERSON LIBRARY.

II. Its Recent Development and Its Future.

(Continued from the July Bulletin, 1908.)

The present library is thus described in the Annual Report of 1902: "It is a room of generous proportions for so special a library, 65 by 70 feet, occupying the south court and corresponding to Fullerton Memorial Hall in the north court, designed by Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, the architects of the rest of the building. The general scheme of decoration was designed and executed by Elmer E. Garnsey of New York. The walls are a soft green, and the pillars separating the alcoves have capitals of greenish bronze, while above them are lunette shaped windows. The skylight, of translucent glass, slightly iridescent and leaded in a graceful pattern, was designed by Louis J. Millet. The alcoves also have skylights, and the tables are fitted with electric reading lamps. The frieze running below the lunettes bears in gilt letters the names of writers on art from classic times to the present. The furniture and fittings are of mahogany." The room owes much of its beauty to the harmonious coloring and to the effects of the light from above, relieving the ivory-colored columns against the alcoves, which sweep about in a semi-circle.

With its occupation of this room a new stage in the development of the library begins. As the Director's Report of that year states, "A new regime is of necessity inaugurated. Our library becomes practically a free public library and is now brought into immediate comparison with other similar institutions in the city."

Miss Forrester, under whose competent care the library had been ever since it became worthy to be called a library, was detached as far as possible from other duties and made

full Librarian. Two assistants were added to the staff, one as reference librarian and cataloguer, the other as general assistant to record attendance, care for the magazines, collate books, etc.

The books at this time numbered only about 2,700 volumes, but from the next report issued, in which statistics of library attendance were for the first time given, it appeared that in the seven months from November to May, 24,946 people had consulted the books, and it became apparent that the use made of the library was not a thing to be calculated by its size. It has been so ever since; the library has grown slowly and is now but a handful of books compared with most of our libraries, but the attendance is enormous in proportion, and there is hardly a book that has not seen hard use.

After some correspondence with Mr. Dewey and others in regard to classification, the Dewey system with some modifications was adopted, and the books recatalogued and classified according to this plan, the alcoves lending themselves readily to the classification. Painting, Sculpture and Architecture for instance, each occupies an alcove of its own. A dictionary card catalogue, including authors, titles and subjects of the books, was begun, an analytical catalogue of the illustrations in the books, which had already been well started, serving as a most useful supplement. The collection of pamphlets, a large and continually growing department, was classified and arranged in pamphlet binders, and the Pearsons Collection of photographs was installed in new cases with sliding shelves, the old masters being arranged alphabetically on one side of the library and the modern on the other.

With everything in order and started in the right direction the little library, like a

young housekeeper, having furnished and arranged her new home, proceeded to settle down and become a useful member of the community, offering freely her hospitality and help to her many visitors. Her popularity was soon assured, and her importance not only in the life of her own small circle, but as a part of the life of the whole city, has increased steadily with the years.

On Wednesdays and Saturdays, the free days of the Museum, the library is practically a free public library. On other days it is used mainly by students of the school and members of the Art Institute, though it is made free at all times to any serious student of art. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, when there are evening classes in the school, the library is kept open until seven for the benefit of these evening students, most of whom are otherwise occupied during the day, and to whom it is a valuable privilege to have access to the library.

For the last few years the attendance has amounted to over 50,000 a year, reaching 68,415 last year. About two-thirds of these are students, to whom the library has become a most important part of the school life. To the students of architecture and decorative design especially, the books are absolutely necessary, and more attention was given from the first to enlarging our collections in these departments than in the others. So that now our alcoves for Design and Architecture have overflowed, and soon these departments as also the Painting, will occupy two alcoves each. This will necessitate moving some of the less used books to the stack room in the lower floor.

M. V. H.

To be continued.

Miss Van Horne is making a professional tour among the libraries of the East.